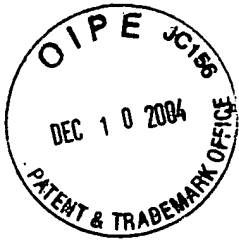


PCT

**PATENT**

Atty. Docket No. 2799 (203-3177PCT US)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Russell Heinrich et al.

Examiner: To be Assigned

Serial No.: 10/510,869

Group Art Unit: To be Assigned

Filed: October 7, 2004

Dated: December 7, 2004

For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ANASTOMOSIS INCLUDING  
AN EXPANDABLE ANCHOR**Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicant(s) duty of disclosure, the information listed in the attached form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the cited U.S. patents and published U.S. patent applications are not provided pursuant to the waiver of this requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 for national applications filed after June 30, 2003. Foreign Patent Documents and Other Documents are enclosed.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: December 7, 2004

Francesco Sardone

The citation of the listed items is not a representation that they constitute a complete or exhaustive listing of the relevant art or that the references are prior art. The items listed are submitted in good faith, but are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner of these particular items, they will assist in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The filing of this information disclosure statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

- ☒ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application.
- ☐ This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application.
- ☒ To the best of Applicant(s) knowledge, this information disclosure statement is being filed before the date of mailing of a first Office Action on the merits in connection with this case.
- ☐ Enclosed herewith is a certificate under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ Enclosed herewith is a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(ii).

☐ Enclosed by check is the petition fee of \$130.00. (37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1))

☐ Please charge the \$130.00 petition fee to Deposit Account No. 21-0550.

☐ Enclosed by check is the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).

☐ Please charge the \$180.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 21-0550.

☒ Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and/or 1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account 21-0550. Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend the time as required and charge Deposit Account No. 21-0550 therefor.

**TWO (2) COPIES OF THIS SHEET ARE ENCLOSED.**

The claims of the application as now presented are believed to  
patentably distinguish over the prior art and to be in condition for allowance.

Early and favorable consideration of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "F. Sardone".

Francesco Sardone

Reg. No. 47,918

Attorney for Applicant(s)

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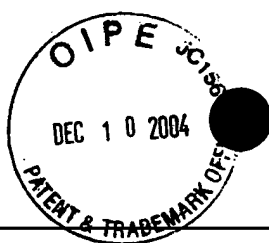
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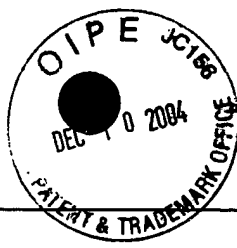


<b>Form PTO-1449</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)	<b>Docket Number (Optional)</b> <b>2799 (203-3177 PCT US)</b>	<b>Application Number</b>  
<b>Applicants</b> <b>Russell Heinrich et al.</b>		
<b>Filing Date</b> <b>October 7, 2004</b>		<b>Group Art Number</b> <b>TBD</b>

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
	5,591,179	1/7/97	Edelstein			
	4,911,164	3/27/90	Roth			
	5,047,039	9/10/91	Avant et al.			
	5,540,701	7/30/96	Sharkey et al.			
	6,176,864	1/23/01	Chapman			
	6,280,460	8/28/01	Bolduc et al.			
	6,254,617	7/3/01	Spence et al.			
	6,241,742	6/5/01	Spence et al.			
	6,203,553	3/20/01	Robertson et al.			
	6,171,321	1/9/01	Gifford, III et al.			
	6,171,319	1/9/01	Nobles et al.			
	6,152,937	11/28/00	Peterson et al.			
	6,149,658	11/21/00	Gardiner et al.			
	6,063,114	5/16/00	Nash et al.			
	6,051,007	4/18/00	Hogendijk et al.			
	6,048,351	4/11/00	Gordon et al.			
	6,024,748	2/15/00	Manzo et al.			
	5,951,576	9/14/99	Wakabayashi			
	5,944,730	8/31/99	Nobles et al.			
	5,904,697	5/18/99	Gifford, III et al.			
	5,868,762	2/9/99	Cragg et al.			
	5,833,698	11/10/98	Hinchliffe et al.			

<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Date Considered</b>
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or nor citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.	



Form PTO-1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
IN AN APPLICATION**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)

**2799 (203-3177 PCT US)**

Application Number

Applicants

**Russell Heinrich et al.**

Filing Date

**October 7, 2004**

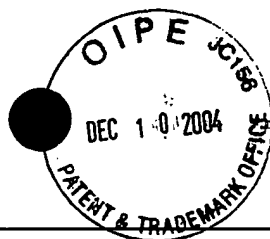
Group Art Number

**TBD****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate
		5,817,113	10/6/98	Gifford, III et al.			
		5,797,934	8/25/98	Rygaard			
		5,741,277	4/21/98	Gordon et al.			
		5,707,380	1/13/98	Hinchliffe et al.			
		5,702,412	12/30/97	Popov et al.			
		5,700,272	12/23/97	Gordon et al.			
		5,695,504	12/9/97	Gifford, III et al.			
		5,591,179	1/7/97	Edelstein			
		5,578,044	11/26/96	Gordon et al.			
		5,554,162	9/10/96	DeLange			
		5,549,619	8/27/96	Peters et al.			
		5,486,187	1/23/96	Schenck			
		5,478,353	12/26/95	Yoon			
		5,464,414	11/7/95	Cziffer			
		5,425,739	6/20/95	Jessen			
		5,403,333	4/4/95	Kaster et al.			
		5,122,156	6/16/92	Granger et al.			

**Examiner****Date Considered**

Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.



<b>Form PTO-1449</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)	<b>Docket Number (Optional)</b> <b>2799 (203-3177 PCT US)</b>	<b>Application Number</b>
	<b>Applicants</b> <b>Russell Heinrich et al.</b>	
	<b>Filing Date</b> <b>October 7, 2004</b>	<b>Group Art Number</b> <b>TBD</b>

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if Appropriate

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
		2004/000093	12/31/03	PCT				
		2004/000136	12/31/03	PCT				
		2004/000135	12/31/03	PCT				
		2004/000134	12/31/03	PCT				
		2003/088848	10/30/03	PCT				

**OTHER DOCUMENTS**

	Provisional Patent Application entitled "Method and Apparatus for Radical Prostatectomy Anastomosis Including and Anchor for Engaging a Body Vessel and Deployable Sutures"

<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Date Considered</b>
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.	